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HUESCHEN AND SAGE

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P.04

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A process for the industrial synthesis of perindopril of formula (I)

$$H_{3}C$$

$$H_{3}C$$

$$O$$

$$CO_{2}H$$

$$CO_{2}H_{3}$$

$$CO_{2}Et$$

$$CO_{2}Et$$

5

10

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein a benzyl ester of formula (IIa) or (IIb):

or an addition salt of the ester of formula (IIa) or (IIb) with a mineral acid or organic acid. is reacted

with a compound of formula (III):

in the presence of a coupling agent selected from:

US Serial No. 10/582,283

Supplemental Response and Amendment of June 12, 2007

(1,3 dimethylaminopropyl) 3 ethyl carbodiimide hydrochloride 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride / 1-hydroxybenzotriazole and propanephosphonic anhydride,

optionally in the presence of a base,

- to yield, after catalytic hydrogenation in the presence of palladium, perindopril of formula (I), which is converted, if desired, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
 - 8. (previously presented) The process of Claim 7 for the synthesis of perindopril in the form of its tert-butylamine salt.
- 9. (previously presented) The process of Claim 7, wherein the compound of formula (IIa)10 is used as starting material.
 - 10. (previously presented) The process of Claim 7, wherein the compound of formula (IIb) is used as starting material.
 - 11. (previously presented) The process of Claim 9, wherein the hydrogenation reaction is carried out under a hydrogen pressure of less than 10 bars.
- 15 12. (previously presented) The process of Claim 10, wherein the hydrogenation reaction is carried out under a hydrogen pressure of from 10 to 35 bars.